A

Second Letter

TO A

FRIEND,

Concerning the

French Invasion,

In which the DECLARATION lately dispersed under the Title of

His Majesty's most Gracious Declaration to all [illegible] their Assistance against the P. of Orange and his Adherents,

Is entirely and exactly Published, according to the dispersed Copies; with some short Observations upon it.

LONDON:
Printed, and are to be sold by *Randal Taylor*, near *Amen-Corner*, MDCXCII.

June 2d. 1692.

Let this be Printed,

Nottingham.

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TO A

FRIEND,

Concerning the

French Invaſion.

In which the DECLARATION lately diſperſed under the Title of

His Majeſty's moſt Gracious Declaration, to all his Loving Subjects, commanding their Aſſiſtance againſt the P. of Orange *and his Adherents,*

Is entirely and exactly Publiſhed, according to the diſperſed Copies; with ſome ſhort Obſervations upon it.

LONDON:

Printed, and are to be ſold by *Randal Taylor*, near *Amen-Corner*, MDCXCII.

A

Second Letter

TO A

FRIEND,

Concerning the

French Situation.

In which the DECLARATION lately

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

A

Second Letter,

CONCERNING

The Late King *James*'s Declaration.

SIR,

HAving in the Concluſion of my Letter promiſed you, if you deſired it, to give you an account of the late King *James*'s *Declaration*, I will make no Excuſes, but like a *Sincere Proteſtant*, will keep my word with you.

This *Declaration* has been induſtriouſly ſcattered about both in *French* and *Engliſh*, by the Enemies of the *preſent Government*. Now to ſave them any farther trouble of this kind, and that the world may ſee, we dare venture it, with all the charms that are by ſome thought to be in it, among the People of *England*, I have thought it the faireſt way to print the whole, *verbatim*, *Paragraph* by *Paragraph*, with ſome ſhort *Obſervations* upon it; and only deſire you to remember, That my principal deſign in it, is only to ſtrengthen the Arguments of my former *Letter*, and to make it appear from this very Declaration, how little reaſon *Engliſh* Proteſtants have to promiſe themſelves, That the late King will be kinder to them, than he was before, ſhould he now return with a *French* Power.

DECLARATION.

WHEREAS the most Christian King, in pursuance of the many obliging promises he has made Us, of giving Us his Effectual Assistance for the recovering of our Kingdoms, as soon as the condition of his Affairs would permit, has put us in a way of endeavouring it at this time; and in order to it, has lent Us so many of his Troops, as may be abundantly sufficient to unty the hands of our Subjects, and make it safe for them to return to their Duty, and repair to Our Standard; and has notwithstanding for the present, according to Our desire, (unless there should appear further necessity for it) purposely declin'd sending over Forces so Numerous, as might raise any jealousie in the minds of Our good Subjects, of his intending to take the Work wholly out of their hands, or deprive any true Englishman *of the part he may hope to have in so Glorious an Action, as is that of Restoring his Lawful King, and his Ancient Government; (all which Foreign Troops, as soon as we shall be fully setled in the quiet and peaceable Possession of our Kingdoms, We do hereby promise to send back, and in the mean time to keep them in such exact Order and Discipline, that none of Our Subjects shall receive the least Injury in their Persons or Possessions, by any Soldier or Officer whatsoever.) Tho an Affair of this nature speaks for it self, nor do We think Our selves at all obliged to say any thing more upon this occasion, than, That We come to Assert our Just Rights, and to deliver our People from the Oppression they lye under; yet when We consider how miserably many of Our Subjects were cheated into the late Revolution by the Art of ill men, and particularly by the Prince of* Orange's *Declaration, which was taken upon trust, and easily believed then, but since appears notoriously false in all the parts of it, consisting no less*

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of Assertions that have been evidently disproved, than of Promises that were never intended to be performed. To prevent the like delusions for the time to come, and to do as much as lies in Our power, to open the eyes of all Our Subjects, We are willing to lay the whole matter before them in as plain and short a manner as is possible, that they may not again pretend mistakes, or have ignorance to plead for any false steps they shall hereafter make towards the ruin of their own, and their Countrey's Happiness.—

OBSERVATIONS.

It begins with a thing very surprizing and memorable, That the *French* King hath once in his life made good his Word, and kept his *Faith*; for so the late King *James* tells us he hath done with him, *in pursuance of the many obliging Promises he had made him, of giving him Effectual Assistance for the Recovery of his Kingdoms*, &c. *Effectual Assistance* is a big word, and more than the *Greatest* and *Most Puissant King* is able always to make good. However I am glad to see they begin to endeavour to perform their Promises to one another. It is a good quality, and it is to be hoped they may in time extend it further. But this satisfies me, that the *French King* thinks it his *Interest* to restore the late *King James*; for he was never known to keep his Promise against his Interest; and it is somewhat surprizing, that the *French King*, and *English Protestants*, should have *the same Interest*.

He seems sensible, that *French Troops* would not be very welcome in *England*; and therefore to qualifie this matter, he says, That the *French* King *at his desire, has purposely declin'd sending over Forces so Numerous, as might raise any jealousie* of a *French* Conquest; for that is the plain *English* of it; that they shall be kept under

exact Diſcipline while they are here, and that he will ſend them home again, when *he is fully ſetled in the quiet and peaceable Poſſeſſion of his Kingdoms.* But I thank God with all my heart, that there is no danger now of theſe *French* Troops coming into *England*; which is a much greater ſecurity to us, than both theſe *Kings* Promiſes for their Good behaviour here, or for their return home again: It is certain, that *One* of them could not keep his Word, if he would; and it is as certain, that the *Other* would not, as it is, that it would not be his Intereſt to do it; for there is not the ſame reaſon for the *French* King to keep his Promiſe of ſending Troops into *England*, and to keep his Promiſe of ſending no more than the late King *James* wants, or of calling them home again when he wants them no longer. But before I proceed to more particular *Obſervations*, it will not be amiſs (and the concluſion of this *Paragraph* requires it) briefly to conſider what is not in the *Declaration*, which the People of *England* had all the reaſon in the world to have expected in it.

Now I can find but *very little* in it, I might with great truth ſay, *nothing*, which a reaſonable man who remembers the late *Reign*, eſpecially the *Concluſion* of it, would have expected in ſuch a *Declaration*.

If the Deſign of ſuch a *Declaration* be to give ſatisfaction to the minds of his Subjects, it ought at leaſt to have contained as good Words, and fair Promiſes, as a Prince could give: He knew very well, what it was that had alienated his Subjects from him; that they apprehended their *Laws*, their *Religion*, and their *Liberties*, to be in great danger; and could not but know, that he had given them too juſt occaſion for ſuch Jealouſies and Fears; and it is wonderful, that he ſhould think of publiſhing a *Declaration*, and not think fit to give the leaſt ſatisfaction

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about theſe matters; not to ſay one word about *Popery* and *Arbitrary Power*, nor to give any expreſs promiſe, that he would remove theſe fears.

The only thing he appeals to, is the juſtice of his Cauſe; and does not think himſelf *obliged to ſay any thing more upon this occaſion, than that he comes to aſſert his own juſt Rights*, &c. But this was not the Controverſy between Him and his People; they did not diſpute then his Right to the Crown, (tho they have ſome Reaſon to do it now) and yet were willing to part with him, when he thought fit to leave them; and if he knew what made them ſo, and hoped to return again by their Aſſiſtance, and with their good-liking, any one but thoſe of his own Council would have thought him obliged to ſay ſomething of it.

The Prince of *Orange*'s *Declaration* put him in mind of this, which he ſays *cheated his Subjects into the late Revolution*; and it had been much more to the purpoſe to have diſcovered the *cheat* of that *Declaration*, or to have ſaid nothing of it, than to affirm without any proof, that now *it appears to be notoriouſly falſe in all the parts of it*; for *Engliſh Proteſtants* know nothing to this day, but that it is all true ſtill. Were there not in the late *Reign* open and bold attempts made againſt the *Laws*, the *Liberties*, and the *Religion* of theſe *Kingdoms*? Was not the *Diſpenſing Power* ſet on foot for thoſe purpoſes? Were not the *Judges* tamper'd with, to obtain a ſentence in favour of the *Diſpenſing Power*, and placed and diſplaced, till they could find fit Tools for that Work; men who would ſacrifice the *Laws* and *Religion* of their Countrey to the Will of their Prince, or to their own Covetouſneſs and Ambition? Were not the *Oaths* of *Allegiance* and *Supremacy*, and the *Teſt*, Diſpenſed with upon this pretence, and men unqualified by Law, put into *Eccleſiaſtical*, *Civil*, and *Military* Preferments, to the apparent

apparent danger both of *Church* and *State*? Was there no *Eccleſiaſtical Commiſſion* ſet up, no *Popiſh Chappels*, *Monaſterys* and *Convents* erected and endowed contrary to *Law*? Were not the *Nobility* and *Gentry* Cloſeted and Examined about the repeal of the *Teſt*, and thoſe diſgraced and turned out of all Offices and Employments, who would not comply? Were not the *Biſhops* ſent to the *Tower*, and Tried in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, for their Humble *Petition* to him againſt reading the *Declaration*? Was not the Adminiſtration of Juſtice, and the greateſt Military Truſts put into the hands of *Papiſts*? Were not the *Charters* of *Cities*, *Towns*, and *Corporations* ſeized into the *King*'s hands, and ſo new-modelled, that the *King* might chuſe what *Burgeſſes* he pleaſed, and have a *Houſe of Commons* of his own Creatures? Were there not viſible grounds of ſuſpition concerning the Birth of the pretended *Prince of Wales*? And has there been ſufficient ſatisfaction given the Nation about it to this day? Theſe are the Grievances complain'd of in the *Prince*'s *Declaration*, which were believed then, not upon the Authority of the *Declaration*, but becauſe they were ſeen and felt; and are believed ſtill, becauſe they are ſtill remembred by thoſe who ſaw and felt them; and how they have ſince *been evidently diſprov'd*, I cannot gueſs. But if ſuch things as theſe are not thought fit to be owned as miſtakes in Government; if it was not thought fit to promiſe the redreſs of any one of them, no not in his *Declaration*, whereby he commands and invites his *Subjects* to Aſſiſt him in recovering his Kingdoms; I can eaſily gueſs, that they will not be thought faults, much leſs be redreſs'd if he ſhould return: They muſt be his very *Loving Subjects* indeed, that can be thus impoſed upon

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DECLARATION.

And therefore, to take the matter from the beginning, it cannot be forgotten, That as ſoon as We had certain Notice of the Prince of Orange's *unnatural deſign of Invading Our Kingdoms, with the whole Power of the* United Provinces, *We firſt took the beſt care We could to provide for Our Defence; which We ſeem'd effectually to have done, when We had put Our Fleet and Army into ſuch a condition, that tho his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, who well ſaw the bottom of the Deſign againſt Us, againſt Himſelf, and indeed, againſt the Peace of* Europe, *offered Us conſiderable Succours both by Land and Sea; We did not think it at all neceſſary to accept them, at that time, as reſolving to caſt Our ſelves wholly (next to the Divine Protection) upon the Courage and Fidelity of Our* Engliſh *Army, which had been with ſo much care and tenderneſs form'd and obliged by Us. And having thus prepared to oppoſe Force to Force; We did, in the next place, apply Our ſelves to give all reaſonable ſatisfaction to the minds of Our good Subjects, by endeavouring to undeceive them, and to let them ſee betimes, and whilſt the miſchief might eaſily have been prevented, how fatal a Ruin they muſt bring upon their Countrey, if they ſuffered themſelves to be ſeduced by the vain pretences of the Prince of* Orange's *Invaſion. However, ſo great was the infatuation of that time, that We were not believ'd till it was too late. But when he was oblig'd to throw off the Maſk by degrees, and that it began to appear plainly that it was not the reformation of the Government (which yet was a matter that did not at all belong to him to meddle with) but the Subverſion of it, that he aim'd at, that ſo he might build his own Ambitious deſigns upon the Ruins of the* Engliſh *Nation: And when the Poyſon had inſinuated it ſelf into the vital Parts of the*

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Kingdom; When it had ſpread over our whole Army, and ſo far got into Our Court and Family, as not only to corrupt ſome of Our Servants that were neareſt Our Perſon, and had been moſt highly obliged by us, but not even to leave Our own Children at that time uninfected: When Our Army daily Deſerted on the one hand, and on the other hand Tumults and Diſorders increaſed in all Parts of the Kingdom; And eſpecially, when ſhortly after the Revolution came on ſo faſt, that We found Our ſelves wholly in Our Enemies Power, being at firſt confin'd by them in our Own Palace, and afterwards rudely forced out of it under a Guard of Foreigners; We could not then but be admoniſhed, by the Fate of ſome of Our Predeceſſors in the like circumſtances, of the danger We were in, and that it was high time to provide for the ſecurity of Our Perſon (which was happily effected by Our getting from the Guard that was ſet upon us at Roche-ſter, *and Our arrival in* France, *the only Part in* Europe *to which We could retire with ſafety) that ſo We might preſerve Our ſelves for better times, and for a more happy opportunity; ſuch as is that, which, by the Bleſſing of God, is at preſent put into our Hands.*

OBSERVATIONS.

To begin with the *Certain notice of the P. of* Orange's *Deſign*, is not *to take the matter from the beginning*. Had he intended to give any ſatisfaction to *Engliſh* Subjects, he ſhould have begun, where their Complaints and Grievances, occaſioned by his *Arbitrary* and *Illegal* Government, began; that is, where the *Prince*'s Deſign, and his own *Abdication* began. That he *took the beſt care he could for his own defence*, no man queſtions; and had he taken leſs, it would not have been taken ill by the Nation. That his *Chriſtian Majeſty* ſaw *this Deſign was a-*

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gainſt himſelf, long before the *late King* was ſenſible of it, appears from the *Memorial* printed at the *Hague*, 9. *Septemb.* 1688. by *Monſieur de Conte d'Avaux*, the *French King's Ambaſſadour*: But when he ſays 'twas *againſt the Peace of* Europe, I confeſs, I know not how to underſtand it, unleſs by *the Peace of* Europe, his *Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty* mean an *Univerſal Deſolation*, which he was making as faſt as he could. For this cannot be denied to be a moſt certain and effectual way of ſetling a *Country* in peace, to lay it waſte, and to deſtroy, and drive out the Inhabitants. To prevent which indeed, was the bottom of this *Deſign*; and the moſt effectual way to do it, was to divide *England* from the Intereſt of *France*.

That the *French King*, to prevent this, did offer *King James* the Aſſiſtance of his Forces, is very probable from the ſame *Memorial*, which threatens the *Dutch* with it; and how this Aſſiſtance came to be refuſed, we learn from my *Lord Sunderland*'s Letter, printed in *the Hiſtory of the Deſertion*, which, and ſome other Counſels (that thwarted the *Popiſh* Deſigns) coſt him his *Religion*, and ſoon after the Favour of his *Prince*, and his Preferments at Court.

That he had no ſuch great Confidence in *the Fidelity of his Engliſh Army*, was too evident in the daily Reformations he made in it; exchanging *Proteſtants* for *Papiſts*, and *Engliſh*-men for *Iriſh*; which occaſioned that memorable Accident at *Portſmouth*, which gave ſuch a general diſguſt to the Army, in a very lucky Seaſon, as greatly diſpoſed them either to go over to the *Prince*, or at leaſt not to fight againſt him.

That he did many things in the time of his diſtreſs to ſweeten his Subjects, is true; but he was much miſtaken if he thought this ſufficient to give *reaſonable ſatisfaction*. He undid many things, which he had illegally done;

but he did this so late, and it was so apparently a matter of force, owing to the change of his Fortune, not of his Inclinations, and then too, done with so ill a grace, that I could observe no body that was then satisfied with it.

He restored the *Charter* of *London*, and of other *Cities* and *Corporations*; He dissolved the *Ecclesiastical Commission*, restored *Magdalen Colledge*, but never own'd the Illegality of these Proceedings; would never renounce *his dispensing Power*; would never be perswaded by the most humble *Petitions*, and earnest Importunities of his *Lords* and *Bishops*, to call a *Free Parliament*, and to refer the redress of all Grievances to them; till he seems to have formed a Design of leaving *England*, and then his Issuing out of *Writs*, which he resolved should never be executed, could do him no hurt, and would have a good appearance, as if he had been willing to have referr'd all to a *Parliament*, had not the growing Power of his Enemies made it more necessary for him to consult the safety of his own Person.

The Case of *Magdalen* Colledge convinced all men, that these were Extorted Favours, and would last no longer, than it was safe to recall them.

King *James* had given his Orders to the *Bishop* of *Winchester*, the *Visitor* of that *Colledge*, to recall Dr. *Hough*, and the former *Fellows* of that Society, and he accordingly went down to reinstate them; but upon the News that the *Dutch* Fleet had suffered much in a Storm, and probably could not sail till the next Spring, His Lordship had new Orders sent to call him back; but that News proving false, he was permitted to return, and to pursue his first Orders: This, it seems, was *all the reasonable satisfaction* that could be given, what his Graces and Favours to *Protestants* were, and how long they would last.

As for what concerns the *Prince* of *Orange*, now our Gracious *King*, I know of no *mask* he had on, nor that ever

ever *he threw off*, or that He afterwards appeared to be any other than his *Declaration* had repreſented Him. He came not for the *Crown*, but to *reform Abuſes*, and *to ſecure the Succeſſion*, which the Right of his *Princeſs*, and *his own* Right and Intereſt, the preſervation of the *Proteſtant Religion*, and of the *Liberties* of *Europe*, gave Him Right and Authority *to meddle with*; but beſides his Expectation, and original Intention, he has the Crown which he came not for: He has deceived no body in it; but if any one be deceived, King *James*, and the People of *England* have deceived Him; the one in leaving his Crown, the other in placing it on his Head; where indeed it ought to be, both in Right of His *Princeſs*, and for his *own merits*; for He who ſaves a Nation, had He no other Claim or Title, may very well deſerve to wear the Crown, eſpecially when it was with the free Conſent of the *Princeſs*, our moſt *Gracious Queen*, and upon the deſire of the *Eſtates of the Realm*, and ſtill neceſſary to ſave the *Nation*.

In the next place, He juſtifieth his leaving *England*, for *the ſecurity of his* Perſon, *being wholly in the Enemies power, at firſt confined by them in his own Palace, and afterwards rudely forced out of it under a Guard of Foreigners*. But if he have forgot it, others have not, that before this happened, he had privately withdrawn his *Perſon*, disbanded his *Army*, diſſolved his *Government*, flung his *Broad Seal* into the *Thames*, and had never had this pretence for his Eſcape, had he not been ſtopped by a miſtake, for no body intended to ſtay him, and all this while he was in Treaty with the Prince, and that upon ſuch equal Terms, that he could be under no juſt apprehenſion of ill uſage.

He excuſes his going to *France*, becauſe it was *the only part in* Europe, *to which he could retire with ſafety*; which is a Confeſſion that he alone was in the *French* Intereſt againſt all *Europe* beſides; and that he durſt not truſt his

Cauſe with any other Princes in Chriſtendom; which argues either a great jealouſie of his own Cauſe, or of their Juſtice and Honour, even to diſtreſſed Princes. But I am ſure *France* was the only place in *Europe* he ought to have avoided; and if he had no other place to go to, he ought to have ventured himſelf at home, or to have gone to *Rome*, which had been a kind of *Second Home*, unleſs he intended to reſign his Crown. He knew what Opinion *Engliſh* Subjects had of *His Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*, and might have known, that they would never fetch him from *France* again, nor willingly receive him with a *French* Power. What a *happy Opportunity* he now has to recover his Kingdoms again by *French* Troops, I ſuppoſe by this time he begins to diſcern; and I hope it may prove a very happy Opportunity for his *Dear Ally* to loſe *his*: He has ſhewed him by his own example what to do in ſuch caſes; and the *Engliſh Parliament* has taught the *French* what name to give it.

DECLARATION.

Upon what foundation of Juſtice, or Common Senſe, the Prince of Orange's *Faction in* England, *were pleaſed to treat this Eſcape of Ours out of the Hands of Our Enemies, in the ſtile of an* Abdication; *a word when apply'd to Sovereign Princes, that was never before uſed to ſignify any thing but a free and voluntary Reſignation of a Crown, as in the Caſes of the Emperor* Charles *the Fifth, and the late Queen of* Sweden; *and what a ſtrange Superſtructure they raiſed upon this weak Foundation, that a Company of Men illegally met together, who had not Power, even by their own Confeſſion at that time (for it was before they had voted themſelves a Parliament) to charge the Intereſt of the meaneſt Subject; ſhould yet take upon them to deſtroy the whole Conſtitution*

ſtitution of the Government, to make an Ancient Hereditary Monarchy become Elective; and then aſſuming to themſelves the Right of Election, ſhould proceed to ſettle the Succeſſion in ſo odd and extravagant a manner, are Tranſactions that need not be repeated: They are too well known to the World, to the great Reproach of the Engliſh *Nation; and the Grounds upon which they are Built, are too vain and frivolous to deſerve a Confutation. Every Freeholder of* England *is, in this Caſe, able to make his own Obſervations; and will, no doubt, examine a little better than hitherto he has done, what aſſurance any private Man can have of keeping his Eſtate, if the King himſelf ſhall hold his Crown by no better a Title.*

OBSERVATIONS.

His leaving the Kingdom for the ſafety of his Perſon, *and to preſerve himſelf for better times, and for a more happy Opportunity,* he ſays, was no *Abdication,* as that ſignifies *a voluntary reſignation of his Crown*; nor do I ſay it was: But his withdrawing his Perſon and Authority, was an actual quitting of the Government: whatever it is in Law, I'm ſure in common ſenſe, the Throne is actually empty, when no body is in it; and no body is in it, when there is no Authority in the Nation to adminiſter the Government. And when the Throne is empty, the *Eſtates of the Realm,* (who are the only Supream Authority, when there is no Monarch) muſt fill it again, unleſs the Government muſt diſſolve; and then there is an end of all *Rights* and *Claims*: And this they have done, not *by turning an Ancient Hereditary Monarchy* into an *Elective*, but by placing the next *undoubted* Heir on the Throne: And tho' he never intended to give up his Right and future Claim, yet he has done what he ne-

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ver intended to do: when the Throne is empty, it muſt be fill'd; and when it is declared vacant, and fill'd by the *Supream Authority* of the Nation, there is no room for him there.

As for the *Convention* of *Eſtates*; When there was no *King* on the Throne, we do not pretend that they were a formal *Parliament*, for that muſt have a King at the Head of it; and therefore, as is obſerved in the *Declaration*, they could impoſe no legal Taxes on Subjects, nor did they attempt it; but yet they were not *a company of men illegally met together*, without Authority to do any thing; but they met at the requeſt, and under the Protection of the *then Prince of* Orange, upon the Fundamental reaſons of the *Conſtitution* it ſelf, as the ſole Judges of all Diſputes relating to the Crown. Such Diſputes will ſometimes happen, and if there be no legal Judges of it, the Sword muſt decide it, and that is a State of *War*, not of *Civil Government*, which all Governments are ſuppoſed to provide againſt; and yet if the *Convention* of the *Eſtates* are not the proper Judges in ſuch caſes, it is certain there are none; and then the Civil Government is diſſolved; we are in a State of War, and muſt ſubmit to the *longeſt Sword*. But this is ſo fully and plainly Stated in the late ingenious *Reflections on the Caſe of Allegiance to a King in Poſſeſſion*, from *p.* 26. to *p.* 34. That to ſhorten this Letter as much as I can, I ſhall refer you to that *Author* for further ſatisfaction.

So that *Free-holders* are not at all concern'd in this matter; a *Convention* of *Eſtates* without a King, cannot meddle with their Properties without a diſſolution of the Government; But when there is no King, or it is a Queſtion whether there be or not, or who is King by the Fundamental Conſtitution of the Government, the *Convention* of the *Eſtates* are the ſole and proper Judges of

of it; in whoſe Determination, all private Subjects are bound in Conſcience to acquieſce. And the *late King* need not complain of this, as if it made the Titles of Princes to Their Crowns very uncertain and Arbitrary: For he had an unqueſtionable Title to his Crown, and might have held it to this Day, if he himſelf had not undermin'd it, by breaking in upon the Laws, and even upon the Conſtitution it ſelf; upon which his Right was founded: This occaſion'd ſuch a *Revolution*, as forced him to Abdicate, and to leave it to a *Convention*, to declare his Throne *vacant*, and to fill it.

DECLARATION.

But ſince ſome Men, who could not ſay one word in defence of the Juſtice of theſe Proceedings, would yet take great pains to ſhew the neceſſity of them, and ſet forth the extraordinary good effects that were to be expected from ſo very bad a Cauſe; We do not doubt but the Nation has by this time caſt up the Account, and when they ſhall have well conſider'd, what Wonders might have been perform'd with leſs Expence of Engliſh *Blood, than that which has been unneceſſarily trifled away in this Quarrel; that ſuch a Number of Ships of War have been loſt and deſtroy'd in the Three years laſt paſt, as might alone have been ſufficient to have made a conſiderable Fleet: That more Money has been drain'd out of the Purſes of our Subjects in compaſs of that time, than during the whole Reigns of many of our Predeceſſors put together; and that not as formerly, ſpent again, and circulating among them, but tranſported, in ſpecie, into Foreign Parts, and for ever loſt to the Nation: When theſe and many other Particulars of this Nature are caſt up, it muſt certainly appear at the Foot of the Account, how much worſe the Remedy is than the fancied Diſeaſe, and that, at leaſt hitherto, the Kingdom is no great Gainer by the Change.*

OBSER-

OBSERVATIONS.

I doubt his late Majeſty is miſinformed; for there are not only *ſome*, but a great many, who have more than *one word* to ſay, both for the *Juſtice*, and the *Neceſſity* of theſe Proceedings, and the whole Nation already feels *the extraordinary good effects of them*, notwithſtanding the expence of Blood and Treaſure, of which he complains; for we know whom we are to thank for that. And the beſt way to prevent the effuſion of more Blood, and the expence of more Money, is to keep out his *French Troops*, and to know when we are well. Revolutions are and will be Bloody, and Chargeable, and therefore one *Revolution* is enough for one Age: The *Dutch* are already pay'd, and we don't deſire to pay the *French* too; which is a much longer Account, and we ſhall get leſs by it. We have hitherto had ſomething for our Money, and ſomething that is very valuable; our *Laws*, and *Liberties*, and *Religion*; but I believe the Nation will think it a hard bargain, to pay ten times the price for *French Popery* and *Slavery*.

The Nation, as he ſays, has *caſt up the Account*, and I believe above Nineteen parts in Twenty, have conſider'd the matter ſo well, that they are come to a fixt Reſolution to oppoſe the intended *Invaſion*, to the utmoſt of their Power.

As for the loſs of the *Ships of War*, it now appears (God for ever be praiſed for it) that *Their Majeſties* have a *Fleet* ſtill left, Conſiderable enough, and Faithful too (notwithſtanding all the Arts and Endeavours of our Enemies to Debauch them from their Allegiance) to deal with, and even to deſtroy the *Naval Power* of *France*.

DECLA-

DECLARATION.

The next Conſideration is, What may reaſonable be expected for the time to come: And as to that, no better judgment can be made of any future Events than by Reflecting upon what is paſt: And doubtleſs from the Obſervation of the Temper and Complexion, the Methods and Maxims of the preſent Uſurper, from the Steps he has already taken, when it was moſt neceſſary for him to give no diſtaſte to the People, as well as from the Nature of all Uſurpation, which can never be ſupported but by the ſame ways of Fraud and Violence by which it was firſt ſet up, there is all the Reaſon in the World to believe, that the beginning of this Tyranny, like the Five firſt Years of Nero, *is like to prove the mildeſt part of it; and all they have yet ſuffer'd, is but the beginning of the Miſeries which thoſe very Men, who were the great Promoters of the Revolution, may yet live to ſee and feel, as the Effect of that Illegal and Tyrannical Government, which they themſelves firſt impos'd upon the Kingdoms.*

OBSERVATIONS.

There is no Anſwer needs be given to this, which may always be ſaid of the beſt Beginnings of the beſt Government: We for our part find no fault with *His Majeſty*'s Government yet, and ſee no reaſon to ſuſpect it for the future: Taxes are the only Cauſe of Complaint now, and yet few complain of them but *Jacobites*, who out of their great Zeal for the late *King*, pay double Taxes to the preſent Government to keep him out, which does him more miſchief than *Jacobite* Oaths could do; and yet thanks be to God, we have a hopeful Proſpect of the end of theſe Taxes, and have been ſo well repaid of late, that we ſhall not grudge to clear the Ac-

count, that we may have ſomething to call our own. But of all Men in the World (excepting always *His moſt Chriſtian Majeſty*,) the *late King* ſhould not attempt to frighten us with the Dangers of Miſgovernment, for a good Reaſon in which himſelf is too nearly concern'd, and which *all Engliſh Proteſtant Subjects* very well know. As to what relates to *the firſt five Years of* Nero. This certainly is a piece of the *Secretary's* own *Pedantry*, to ſhew his great Reading, and to impart to us one of the choiceſt Secrets in the *Roman* Hiſtory. All Compariſons of Princes with *Nero* are very odious, but I know not how he could have made one more to the advantage of *King William*, than to compare his *Reign* hitherto with *the five firſt Years of* Nero, which the *Roman* Hiſtorians tells us may compare with that of the beſt of their Emperors. But however, this I am ſure of, that it is better to begin a *Reign* as *Nero* did, than to begin where he ended, as *two* other *Kings* have done, and to go on to improve and perfect that ill *Pattern*; to which, if God had not mercifully prevented it, they were, not above a Month ago, juſt ready to have given their *laſt hand*, and the *finiſhing ſtrokes*.

DECLARATION.

And yet the Conſideration muſt not reſt here neither: For all wiſe Men ought, and all good Men will take care of their Poſterity; and therefore it is to be remembred, that if it ſhould pleaſe Almighty God, as one of his ſevereſt Judgments upon theſe Kingdoms, for the many Rebellions and Perjuries they have been guilty of, ſo far to permit the Continuation of the preſent Uſurpation, that we ſhould not be reſtor'd during our Life-time, yet an indiſputable Title to the Crown will ſurvive in the Perſon of our deareſt Son the Prince of Wales, *our preſent Heir apparent, and*

his

his Iſſue, and, for default of that, in the Iſſue of ſuch other Sons as we have great reaſon to hope (the Queen being now with Child) we may yet leave behind us: And what the Conſequences of that is like to be, may eaſily be underſtood by all that are not ſtrangers to the long and bloody Contentions between the two Houſes of York *and* Lancaſter; *and whoever ſhall read the Hiſtories of thoſe Times, and there ſhall have preſented to him as in one view a Scene of all the Miſeries of an Inteſtine War, the perpetual harraſſing of the poor Commons by Plunder and Free-quarter, the ruine of many noble Families by frequent Executions and Attainders, the weakning of the whole Kingdom in general at home, and the loſing thoſe advantages they might in the mean time have procur'd for themſelves abroad, cannot but conclude that theſe are the natural Effects of thoſe Strugglings and Convulſions that muſt neceſſarily happen in every State, where there is a Diſpute entail'd between an injured Right and an unjuſt Poſſeſſion.*

OBSERVATIONS.

This will need but a very ſhort Anſwer. For as to the Civil Wars he threatens our Poſterity with from the Pretences of the *Prince of Wales*, I muſt needs ſay, I had rather, if it muſt come to fighting, that they ſhould fight for the Crown twenty or thirty Years hence, then now. *Give Peace in our days, O Lord.* I had rather our Poſterity ſhould enſlave themſelves, if they ſhall have a mind to be enſlaved, then that we ſhould enſlave our ſelves and our Poſterity with us. There is no ſuch haſte of bringing in *Popery* and *Slavery*, and it is to be hoped, if we be true to our *Religion* and *Liberties*, our Poſterity may grow wiſe by our Example. But I muſt obſerve that whereas the *Prince of Wales* in the *Engliſh Declaration* is called the *Heir apparent*, in the *French* Declaration

he is called only the *Presumptive Heir*. Perhaps *Presumptive Heir* in the *French* Law may be the same with *Heir apparent* in *ours*: If it be not, What did Sir *E. H.* or whoever was the Penman of this *Declaration*, mean by it? Will they set aside the Pretences of the *Prince* of *Wales*, if the *late* Queen *Mary* (who is said to be with Child) in good truth bring forth a Son? this looks very suspiciously, as if they did not believe, they had given sufficient Satisfaction, about the *Birth* of this Pretended *Prince* of *Wales*; but however we must *presume* him *Prince* of *Wales*, till they have another whom they can by better proof make out to be the unquestionable Son of the *late Queen Mary*.

DECLARATION.

There is another Consideration that ought to be of weight with all Christians: *and that is the calamitous Condition of* Europe, *now almost universally engaged in a War among themselves at a time when there was the greatest hopes of Success against the* Common Enemy, *and the fairest Prospect of Enlarging the Bounds of the* Christian *Empire, that ever was in any Age since the declining of the* Roman: *And so far from the hopes of a general Peace before our Restoration, that no rational Project of a Treaty can be form'd in order to it: But that once done, the thing will be easie, and we shall be ready to offer our Mediation, and interpose all the good Offices we can with* his most Christian Majesty *for the obtaining of it.*

OBSERVATIONS.

This whole *Period* is a sharp and perpetual *Satyr* against the *French King*: For who has been the great Disturber of the Peace of *Europe*, but *his most Christian*

Majesty? With whom are all the Princes of *Europe* at War but with Him? Who else has *hindered the Success against the Common Enemy, and the enlarging the bounds of the Christian Empire?* Who invited the *Turk* into *Europe?* Who encourages him to continue the War, after so many Fatal Defeats, which may probably prove the ruin of his whole Empire? In a word, what other *Christian Prince* is the *Great Turk's* Ally and Confederate in this War? And is not this War continued and encouraged by all the Power and Interest of the *French King*, on purpose to disturb the *Peace* of *Europe*, that while the *Imperial Forces* are otherwise employ'd, he may make a Prey of his weaker Neighbours? It is decent to spare *Crowned Heads*, and such as have been crowned; but the *Penman* of this *Declaration* deserves his Reward for putting in so many notorious Falshoods, as may justly call the truth and sincerity of the whole in Question. I know but one Excuse for him, that he has made it almost all of a piece, and though he has had little regard to Truth, yet he has so ordered the matter, that he can deceive no body but those who have a great mind to be deceived; and it is not amiss that such should be gratified.

Who but the late King could hope to perswade the World, that to restore him to his Kingdoms is absolutely necessary to the *Peace of Europe*, that *before his Restoration no rational Projects of a Treaty can be formed in order to a Peace.* He may be mistaken in this, for the *French* King may quickly be glad to make Peace, and leave *Him* and his *Restoration* out of the *Treaty*: For things are come to that extremity now, that it is in vain to think of Peace, till *Lewis the Great* be reduced to such a state, as to accept it, and unable to break it: And then this Argument returns upon him; for the *Peace* of *Europe* is

a neceſſary Reaſon why he ſhould not be reſtored, as I obſerved in my former *Letter*.

But He, who could fancy himſelf to be a proper and effectual *Mediator* for a Peace, if he were reſtored, muſt have liberty to fancy any thing; and it is happy for him that he has ſo comfortable an Imagination: I do really pity him too much to endeavour to diſpoſſeſs him of it; becauſe that would be to *undo* Him more than He is already *undone*.

DECLARATION.

Since therefore We come with ſo good Purpoſes, and ſo good a Cauſe, the Juſtice of which is founded upon the Laws both of God and Man, ſince the Peace of Europe *as well as of Our own Kingdoms, the Proſperity of preſent and future Ages is concerned in the ſucceſs of it, We hope We ſhall meet with little Oppoſition, but that All Our Loving Subjects, according to the Duty and the Oath of their Allegiance, and as We hereby Command and Require them to do, will joyn with Us, and Aſſiſt Us to the utmoſt of their Power.*

OBSERVATIONS.

I can ſay little to this; the Event will beſt ſhew, whether the People of *England* will think his Cauſe ſo good, and the Reaſons for his *Reſtauration* ſo preſſing, as to aſſiſt him in it.

DECLARATION.

And We do hereby ſtrictly forewarn and prohibit any of Our Subjects whatſoever, either by Collecting or paying any of the Illegal Taxes lately impoſed upon the Nation, or any part of Our Revenue, or by any other ways to Abet or Support the preſent Uſurpation. And that We may do all that can be thought of to win over all Our Subjects to Our Service, that ſo, if it be poſſible, We may have none but the Uſurper and his Foreign Troops to deal with; and that

none may be forced to continue in their Rebellion by despair of Our Mercy for what they have already done, We do hereby Declare and Promise, by the Word of a King, That all Persons whatsoever, how guilty soever they may have been (except the Persons following, viz. *The Duke of* Ormond, *Marquess of* Winchester, *Earl of* Sunderland, *Earl of* Bath, *Earl of* Danby, *Earl of* Nottingham, *Lord* Newport, *Bishop of* London, *Bishop of* St. Asaph, *Lord* Delamere, *Lord* Wiltshire, *Lord* Colchester, *Lord* Cornbury, *Lord* Dunblane, John *Lord* Churchil, *Sir* Robert Howard, *Sir* John Worden, *Sir* Samuel Grimstone, *Sir* Stephen Fox, *Sir* George Treby, *Sir* Basil Dixwel, *Sir* James Oxendon, *Dr.* Tillotson, *Dean of* Canterbury, *Dr.* Gilbert Burnet, Francis Russel, Richard Levison, John Trenchard, *Esquires*; Charles Duncomb, *Citizen of* London, Edwards, Napleton, Hunt, *Fisherman, and all others who offer'd Personal Indignities to Us at* Feversham; *except also all Persons who as Judges or Jury-men, or otherwise had a hand in the Barbarous Murther of Mr.* John Ashton, *and of Mr.* Cross, *or of any others who have been illegally Condemned and Executed for their Loyalty to Us; and all Spies, and such as have betrayed Our Counsels during Our late Absence from* England) *that by an early return to their Duties, and by any Signal Mark of it, as by Seizing to Our Use, or Delivering into Our Hands any of Our Forts, or by bringing over to Us any Ships of War, or Troops in the Usurper's Army, or any new raised and Armed by themselves, or by any other Eminent good Service, according to their several Opportunities and Capacities, shall manifest the sincerity of their Repentance, shall not only have their respective Pardons immediately passed under the Great Seal of* England, *but shall otherwise be Considered and Rewarded by Us, as the Merit of their Case shall require. And for all others who after the*

time

time of Our Landing shall not appear in Arms against Us, nor do any Act or Thing in Opposition to Our Restauration, the Persons before mentioned only excepted, Who shall provide in Our first Parliament (which We intend to call with all convenient speed) by a General Act of Indemnity, that so the Minds of all Our Subjects may be at quiet, and as much as may be, as their Persons and Properties will be secure and inviolable under Our Government.

Provided always, That all Magistrates who expect any Benefit of Our Gracious Pardon, shall immediately after Notice of Our Landing make some Publick Manifestation of their Allegiance to Us, and of their Submission to Our Authority, and also Publish and cause to be Proclaimed this Our Declaration as soon as it shall come to their Hands, and likewise that all Keepers of Prisons immediately set at Liberty all Persons Committed to their Custody upon the account of their Allegiance and Affection to Us, or be excluded from any Benefit of Our Pardon.

And We do hereby further Declare, That all Officers or Soldiers by Sea or Land, now engaged in the Usurper's Service, who shall after Notice of Our Landing, at any time before they Engage in any Fight or Battel against Our Forces, quit the said illegal Service, and return to their Duty, shall not only have their respective Pardons, but shall likewise be fully satisfied and paid all the Arrears due to them from the Usurper. And that even the Foreigners themselves, who have been as well in Troops as single Persons drawn into this Kingdom, in order to List them as there should be occasion for the Opposing Our Return, and continuing Our People in the Oppression they lie under, may not be altogether driven to despair, We do Promise, that all such of them as shall, as aforesaid, before they Engage against any of our Forces, lay down their Arms, and claim the Benefit of Our present Declaration, shall have their Ar-

rears

rears satisfied, and care shall be taken for their Transportation to their respective Countries, or elsewhere as they shall reasonably desire.

OBSERVATIONS.

Let us now consider the Grace and Favour promised in this *Declaration*. For Grace and *Pardon*, &c. are very good things when we get them, but yet no Man would chuse to need them, if he could help it. If the *late King's Restoration* were desirable upon other Accounts, and nothing hindred Subjects from returning to their Duty and Allegiance but fear of Punishment for what is past, the Promise of *Pardon* would be a very good Argument to encourage Subjects to assist him in his Return; but merely that we shall be pardoned, is no Argument to bring him back, because we shall need no Pardon if we don't, and that is always the surest side, to need no Pardon, much surer than any Promise of *Pardon* the *late King* can make.

And yet he has us'd that great Caution in his Promise of Pardon, as if he were afraid we should expect more than he intends to give, and should charge him with a new breach of Promise, when we come to *Tower-Hill* or *Tyburn*.

We see whom he has excepted, but 'tis not easie to know who is pardoned; the truth is, he has put all the Subjects of *England* under a necessity of forfeiting their Pardon, when he recovers his Throne, or of being hang'd or *Mobb'd*, at least of venturing both, before *He* can be in a condition to Pardon. All are excepted from this Pardon, who shall either *appear in Arms against him, or do any Act or Thing in Opposition to his Restoration*. Now, *to collect or pay any of the Illegal Taxes, or any part of the Revenue of the Crown*, are expresly forbid, *as abet-*

ting or supporting the present Usurpation; and therefore to pay Taxes is one of the *Acts or Things* which excludes from Pardon, and this excepts the whole Nation at once. And for the comfort of the *Clergy*, to Pray for King *William* and Queen *Mary*, and for the Success of their Arms, especially after the *late King* is landed, will certainly be *doing an Act or Thing in Opposition to his Restoration*. And all *Magistrates* are in a very hopeful Condition, who are excluded from Pardon, unless they *shall immediately after Notice of his Landing, make some Publick Manifestation of their Allegiance to him, and of their Submission to his Authority, and cause his Declaration to be Proclaim'd as soon as it shall come to their Hands.*

This is a very *Gracious Pardon*, which Men must Purchase at the Price of their Necks, and yet how far this *Pardon* will extend, we know not; it may be only to *Life*, for here is no mention of *Fortunes* or *Honours*: and yet it is but a meer *Pardon*, here is not one kind word given to the *Protestant Nobility, Gentry*, or *Clergy*; no Promise to employ them in his *Councils*, or any *Civil* or *Military* Trusts; and when we know how he has hitherto kept his Promises, we have little reason to expect that he will now do more than he has promised.

But besides the *Exceptions* from Pardon in general words, which upon one Account or other do involve the whole Nation, there are some things very Remarkable as to the *Persons by Name* Excepted. Most of them I believe are not sorry for it, because they know their case would have been the same, had they not been excepted; and possibly others may hope, their case may be the better for being excepted. But why Sir *St. K.* and Sir. *S. Gr.*? They are both of them very worthy and honest Gentlemen, and I dare almost be their *Compurgatour*, as to having had any hand in *Revolutions*: But

I must

I must confess both of them have Estates very worthy to be excepted. And some such Reason probably there may be for excepting Sir *J. O.* and Sir *B. D.* of *Kent*, for it cannot but come into every body's mind, how conveniently their Estates lye to make a Compensation to Sir *E. H.* for his great Merits and Sufferings. But why descend so low as to except poor *Hunt* the Fisherman? This I take to be a true stroke of *Secretary Melfort's Popish Bigotry*, and put in on purpose to let us know that effectual care will be taken, that the *late King*, whenever he returns, shall have so *exact* a Memory, that the Merits of the meanest Man in *England* shall not be forgotten. You see what the Pardon is, and those who like it may merit it, if they please.

DECLARATION.

And we do hereby further declare and promise, That we will protect and maintain the Church of England, as it is now by Law established, in all their Rights, Priviledges, and Possessions; And that upon all Vacancies of Bishopricks, and other Dignities and Benefices within our Disposal, care shall be taken to have them filled with the most Worthy of their own Communion.

OBSERVATIONS.

Here he promises to protect and defend the *Church of England*, which will be a great Favour indeed from him, if he should return with a *French Power*. But the *Church of England* is protected already by *Princes*, who think it their Duty to do it: And we think our selves much safer in the *Inclinations* of a *Protestant* King and Queen than we can be in all the *Promises* of a *zealous Papist*. And therefore this can be no argument in our case, because it offers us a worse security for our Protection than what we already

ready have; for it is always great odds on *Nature's* side. And yet this Promise to the *Church of England* seems fainter and cooler, than some he has formerly made, which is all the reason we have to expect it will be better kept; especially there being not the least Intimation of the Breach of his former Promises, nor any excuse made for it. And it is fit to be observed, that whereas he promises, that *upon all Vacancies of Bishopricks, and other Dignities and Benefices within our Disposal, care shall be taken to have them filled with the most Worthy of their own Communion*; there is not one word said of *Universities* and *Colledges*, though the Case of *Magdalen Colledge* is so very notorious, and so fresh in every Man's Memory, that there is hardly a *Yeoman* or *Artificer* in the Nation, that has not a lively Remembrance of it. *Church of England men* then shall at present have the *Churches*, and *Papists* the *Colledges* to breed up a *Roman Catholick* Succession of *honest Obedians*.

DECLARATION.

And whereas more Tumults and Rebellions have been rais'd in all Nations upon the Account of Religion, than on all other pretences put together; and more in England *than in all the rest of the World besides; That therefore Men of all Opinions in Matters of Religion may be reconciled to the Government, that they may no longer look upon it as their Enemy, but may therefore think themselves equally concern'd in the Preservation of it with the rest of their Fellow subjects, because they are equally well treated by it, and being convinc'd in our Judgment, that Liberty of Conscience is most agreeable to the Laws and* the Spirit of the Christian Religion, *and most conducing to the Wealth and Prosperity of our Kingdoms, by encouraging Men of all Countries and Perswasions to come and Trade*

with us, and settle amongst us: For these Reasons we are resolved most earnestly to recommend to Our Parliament the settling Liberty of Conscience in so Beneficial a manner, that it may remain a lasting Blessing to this Kingdom.

OBSERVATIONS.

In this *Paragraph*, for the *Peace of the Nation*, and for the Advancement of *Trade*, he promises *earnestly to recommend to the Parliament the settling Liberty of Conscience*: But this is no Argument to the *Dissenters*, to help forward another *Revolution*, because they have it already in as full and ample a manner as it can be given them. All that he can add to this, is Liberty of Conscience for *Papists*, and the *Repeal* of the *Test*, which cost him so much *Clattering* to no purpose, and now is promis'd as a *Favour*: What *Protestant Dissenters will think of it*, I leave them to consider.

But when he says, *We are convinc'd in our Judgment that Liberty of Conscience is most agreeable to the Laws, and to the Spirit of the Christian Religion*, me-thinks these two *Kings* treat one another with great Freedom. For what handsomer Compliment could have been made to the *most Christian King*, than to intimate that his Persecution of his *Protestant Subjects* is not at all agreeable to the *Laws*, or to the *Spirit* of the *Christian Religion*? This is Plain-dealing if the *French King* can bear it. But, I suppose they are agreed, that K. J. shall *declare* as is most fit for his purpose, and the *French* King *do* what is most convenient for his own.

DE-

DECLARATION.

Lastly, It shall be our great Care by the Advice and Assistance of our Parliament, to repair the Breaches and heal the Wounds of the late Distractions, to restore Trade by putting the Act of Navigation in effectual Execution, which has been so much violated of late in favour of Strangers, to put our Navy and Stores into as good a Condition as we left them, to find the best ways of bringing back Wealth and Bullion to the Kingdom, which of late has been so much exhausted, and generally we shall delight to spend the Remainder of our Reign, (as we have always design'd since our coming to the Crown) in studying to do every thing that may contribute to the Re-establishment of the Greatness of the English *Monarchy upon its old and true Foundation the united Interest and affection of the People.*

OBSERVATIONS.

What these *Breaches and Wounds of the late Distractions* are, he does not tell us, and therefore we must suppose they are such as are here mentioned. As for *restoring Trade*, it has not been lost yet; the *Custom-house* does not complain of it, which is commonly the first that feels it. The *Navy* is in a much better Condition than he left it, if we may guess at that by its late Exploits. But if he be so well skilled *in restoring Navies*, he ought both in Charity and Gratitude now to stay a little longer in *France*. As for his *bringing back Wealth and Bullion into the Nation*, I believe the Nation would have been better pleased, if he would have promised to send none out. And as for his *Concluding* promise in these words, *And generally we shall delight to spend the Remainder of our Reign (as we have always design'd since our coming to the Crown) in studying to do every thing that may contribute to the Re-establishment of the Great-*

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ness of the English Monarchy upon its old and true Foundations, the united Interest and Affection of the People. This is *Plain-dealing*, and surest to be made good of any thing in the *Declaration.* And if he does this *now, as he always designed to do it* (for he could not then do all that he *designed* to do) here is a renewed Promise of *Popery* and *Arbitrary Power*: And those are unpardonable his fidels, who will not take his word for it.

DECLARATION.

Thus having endeavoured to answer all Objections, and give all the Satisfaction we can think of to all Parties and Degrees of Men: We cannot want our selves the Satisfaction of having done all that can be done on our part whatever the Event shall be, the Disposal of which we commit with great Resignation and Dependance to that God who judges Right: And on the other side, if any of our Subjects after all this shall remain so obstinate as to appear in Arms against us, as they must needs fall unpitied under the Severity of our Justice, after having refused such gracious offers of Mercy, so they must be answerable to Almighty God for all the Blood that shall be spilt, and all the Miseries and Confusions in which these Kingdoms may happen to be involved by their desperate and unreasonable Opposition.

Given at Our *Court* at St. *Germains*, this present 20*th*. of *April*, 1692. in the *Eighth* Year of our *Reign*.

Per ipsum Regem manu propriâ.

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OBSERVATIONS.

Thus the *Declaration* ends, and it is time for me to end too. After these *Observations* you will be able to comprehend both the wise Design of this *Declaration*, and how likely it is to have its effect; provided it can but gain these two easie points. First, to perswade *King William* to quit the Crown for fear of losing it; And then prevail with the People to believe, that *two other Kings* whom I will not name, will for this once put off their Natures, and out of a particular Respect and Kindness to the *English* Church and Nation quit all thoughts of introducing *Popery* and *Arbitrary Power* here in *England*.

Once more, *Sir*,

Farewel.

FINIS.

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